



Immediate Release

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NORTHERN ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION ALL HIRED AG WORKER'S WAGE RATE DOWN

WYOMING: The number of hired farm and ranch workers in the tri-state region during the week July 10-16, 2011 was up 1,000 (4 percent) from a year ago, according to Nancy Hussey with the Wyoming Field Office of USDA NASS. During this period, 28,000 hired workers were working on farms and ranches in the Northern Rocky Mountain Region which includes **Wyoming**, Montana, and Idaho. The total excludes agricultural service workers. Of the 28,000 hired workers, 21,000 were expected to work for 150 days or more and 7,000 were expected to work 149 days or less, compared with 19,000 and 8,000 last year.

The average wage rate for all hired workers in the tri-state labor force during the survey week was \$10.25 per hour, down \$0.07 from July 2010. Hired field workers were paid an average wage of \$10.18 per hour compared with \$9.95 last year. Hired livestock workers averaged \$9.91 per hour compared with \$9.39 last year.

The average number of hours worked during the survey week was 44.5 up 2.2 hours from last July.

UNITED STATES: There were 1,186,000 hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of July 10-16, 2011, down 5 percent from a year ago. Of these hired workers, 836,000 were hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 350,000 workers.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$10.90 per hour during the July 2011 reference week, up 11 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$10.24 per hour, up 15 cents from last July, while livestock workers earned \$10.28 per hour compared with \$10.15 a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$10.25 per hour, was up 14 cents from last year. The number of hours worked averaged 41.3 hours for hired workers during the survey week, up 1 percent from a year ago.

**Farm Wage Rates by Type of Worker,
Regions and U.S., July 10-16, 2011 1/**

Region	Hired Workers			
	Type of Worker			
	Field	Lvstk	Fld & Lvstk Combined	All Hired Workers
	Dollars per hour			
Mntn I 2/	10.18	9.91	10.05	10.25
Mntn II 3/	9.77	9.19	9.55	10.55
No Plns 4/	11.04	10.96	11.00	11.20
U.S. 5/	10.24	10.28	10.25	10.90

1/ Excludes Ag Service Workers
2/ Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming
3/ Colorado, Nevada and Utah

4/ Kansas, Nebraska, North &
South Dakota
5/ Excludes Alaska